

March 15, 1994

LB 611, 642, 642A, 883, 883A, 903, 929, 980
1017, 1116

that we have to make some adjustment. Yes, it's a lot of money; yes, judges do get paid a lot of money, certainly more than the Legislature does, but I don't think it's fair to make a comparison of judicial salaries to the average Nebraska wage. If we do that, we would be in error to not compare a lot of other salaries, to go the Med Center and say hey, there's a lot of docs here, an awful lot of docs who are getting an awful lot more...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR LINDSAY: ...than the judges are getting. It would be erroneous for us not to go over to the university and say there is an awful lot of professors, there's an awful lot of administrators who are making an awful lot more than the judges are. It would be wrong for us to not go either of the law schools in Nebraska and get a large number of deans and professors who are making more than judges are. If we want to lower the position of judge down below a lot of the other positions in the legal field, then what we do is we defeat the pay raise, we defeat it and we just hope because that's all we can do at that point, we hope we get some decent judges. I, again, would urge for the adoption of the amendment, be happy to try and answer any questions.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LB 1017, LB 883, LB 883A, LB 980, LB 611, LB 642, LB 642A, LB 929 and LB 1116. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, at the beginning of Senator Lindsay's presentation he got kind of into the spirit of the approach I am taking this morning, but instead of talking about a boxing match, he's said he'd like to compare it to wrestling because it appears that Senator Beutler and I have a tag team and he's not allowed to tag off. But what difference does that make when you have the judges wrapped up and in your pocket? All the judges are on his side so he can't lose, he feels. He said after listening to the little extension of Aesop's Fable which I gave, he didn't ask how I knew that that extension was a part of the original story and he wondered what kind of bedtime stories I tell. Senator Lindsay, it depends onto whom I'm telling the story. Now, this kind of situation that we find ourselves in today is not unusual for a Legislature anywhere in the country. We have a basic bill,